



Northern Ireland
Assembly

COMMITTEE FOR REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**WEDNESDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2014
ROOM 21, PARLIAMENT BUILDINGS**

Present:

Mr Trevor Clarke MLA (Chairperson)
Mr Sean Lynch MLA (Deputy Chairperson)
Mr John Dallat MLA
Mr Ross Hussey MLA
Mr Chris Lyttle MLA
Mr David McNarry MLA
Mr Stephen Moutray MLA
Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA

In attendance:

Mr Paul Carlisle (Clerk to the Committee)
Mr Gavin Ervine (Assistant Assembly Clerk)
Ms Christine Dodson (Clerical Supervisor)
Mr Barry McLernon (Clerical Officer)

Apologies:

Mr Joe Byrne MLA
Mr Declan McAleer MLA

10:11am The meeting commenced in open session

10:11am The Deputy Chairperson assumed the role of Chairperson

1. Apologies

As above.

2. Chairperson's Business

The Deputy Chairperson reminded Members that the motion to extend the Committee Stage of the Off-Street Parking (Functions of District Councils) Bill was scheduled for Monday 1st December 2014, but was not moved.

3. Draft Minutes

Agreed: The Committee agreed the minutes of the meeting of 26th November 2014.

4. Correspondence

Members noted the correspondence received.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from Minister Danny Kennedy to Dominic Bradley MLA regarding Rail the Way for Armagh Petition.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Committee queries on the appointment of Belfast Harbour Commissioners.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding cost of transfer of car parks and agreed to include this in the Bill report.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Consumer Council regarding the Business Plan 2015-16.

Agreed: The Committee noted holding correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Committee queries on Rail Track Inquiry and Off-Street Parking.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development regarding Committee queries on the Off-Street Parking Bill and agreed to include this in the Bill report.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from the Department for Regional Development to Research regarding queries on transport interventions applicable to people with Down's syndrome or people with learning difficulties.

Agreed: The Committee noted correspondence from North Down and Ards District Council requesting to brief the Committee on issues surrounding Donaghadee Harbour and agreed to arrange a briefing.

5. Subordinate Legislation not Subject to Assembly Procedure

Members noted:

- The Parking and Waiting Restrictions (Armagh) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014
- The Parking Places (Disabled Persons' Vehicles) (Amendment No 6) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014
- The Waiting Restrictions (Carrickfergus) (Amendment No 2) Order (Northern Ireland) 2014

10:15am The Committee adjourned

10:17am The Committee recommenced in closed session

The following Members were present: Mr Sean Lynch MLA (Deputy Chairperson), Mr John Dallat MLA, Mr Ross Hussey MLA, Mr David McNarry MLA, Mr Cathal Ó hOisín MLA.

6. Off-Street Parking (Functions of District Councils) Bill: Legal Advice on Proposed Committee Amendment

10:17am The following officials joined the meeting

Eilis Haughey – Bill Office, NI Assembly
Stephanie Mallon – Bill Office, NI Assembly

The officials presented to the Committee in respect of the work of the above.

10:18am Mr Clarke joined the meeting and assumed the role of Chairperson

10:28am Mr Lyttle joined the meeting

10:46am Mr Lynch left the meeting

10:48am Mr Lynch re-joined the meeting

10:55am The officials left the meeting

Agreed: The Committee agreed that it would not seek to amend the Off Street Parking (Transfer of Functions to District Councils) Bill at this stage.

5. NI Assembly Research and Information Services Briefing: Financial Scrutiny

10:56am *The following official joined the meeting*

Michael Scholes – RaISe, NI Assembly

The official presented to the Committee in respect of the work of the above.

10:57am *Mr McNarry left the meeting*

11:04am *Mr McNarry re-joined the meeting*

11:32am *The official left the meeting*

11:32am *The Committee moved into open session*

9. Department for Regional Development Briefing: Budget 2015/16

11:33am *The following officials joined the meeting*

Peter May – Permanent Secretary, DRD

John McGrath – Deputy Secretary, Finance, Resources and Water Policy, DRD

Dr Andrew Murray – Chief Executive, Transport NI

Deborah McNeilly – Director of Finance, DRD

The officials presented to the Committee in respect of the work of the above. Following the presentation, Members put questions.

12:02pm *Mr Lyttle left the meeting*

12:03pm *Mr Hussey left the meeting*

12:04pm *Mr Ó hOisín left the meeting*

12:04pm *The Committee was inquorate*

12:15pm *Mr Hussey re-joined the meeting*

12:15pm *The Committee was once again quorate*

12:15pm *Mr Ó hOisín re-joined the meeting*

12:16pm *Mr Dallat left the meeting*

12:21pm *Mr Moutray joined the meeting*

12:39pm *Mr Hussey left the meeting*

1:08pm *Mr Lyttle re-joined the meeting*

1:18pm *The officials left the meeting*

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department to request an indicative list of the towns and rural roads which will have bus services or maintenance withdrawn.

Agreed: The Committee agreed to write to the Department to request further information listing all assets which are producing a resource/revenue and the size of the resource/revenue for the last three years to date.

10. Any Other Business

Mr Lyttle declared an interest as Chairperson of the All Party Group on Cycling.

Mr Lyttle raised the issue of the Departmental Bicycle Strategy and the Committee report on the Inquiry into the Benefits of Cycling to the Economy.

11. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting of the Committee will be Monday 8th December 2014 at 12:30pm in the Senate Chamber, Parliament Buildings

1:22pm *The meeting was adjourned*

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Mr Trevor Clarke MLA
Chairperson, Committee for Regional Development
10/12/14